

MINUTES
INDIANA BOARD OF FIREFIGHTING
PERSONNEL STANDARDS AND EDUCATION MEETING

MAY 19, 2014 6PM
BROWNSBURG FD
470 E NORTHFIELD DR
BROWNSBURG IN 46112
317-852-1190

- A Meeting called to order 6pm
- B. Roll call

Present

Greg Wyant
Chris Johnson
Tom Hanify
Eric Gentry
Rob Lund
John Smith
Eric Dreiman
James Greeson
Joe Romero

Absent

Burke Jones

- C. Eric Gentry made a motion to April 14th minutes as submitted. Chris Johnson seconded. Motion passed.
- D Variance requests;

Greg Wyant moved K (2) up to this position. Steffen Shrock from Goshen is in attendance. Chief Shrock explained why the second extension for Firefighter 2 as to why more time was needed. Shane began in fire service in 2009 but was not hired at Goshen FD until 2012. Most training he received prior to joining us. There was a time frame between his EMS training and we just dropped the ball. He has completed this and is now ready to complete his fire training.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve a 6 month extension for Shane to complete the firefighter 2 training. James Greeson seconded. Motion passed.

1. Jeff Kochis, Asst Chief, Hammond FD, requested a variance for the following students to be able to have their FF ½ test count even though they did not have the prerequisites completed at the time of test. The reason the prerequisite test had not been completed was due to the weather.

Tristan Petry; Garrett White; Sam Mijares; and Mark Ramoska II

They completed the FF ½ testing without having Hazmat operations.

Staff recommends denial. On October 1, 2013, Hazmat Operations became the prerequisite for Firefighter I/II. This class completed the Hazmat Operations on March 7, and the firefighter I/II on March 20th.

Chris Johnson spoke about the prerequisite is an issue. They were simply taken out of order, they have passed the exams, and he understands that due to the weather, they could not complete in order. Also, it was a third party that was responsible for the Hazmat portion of this issue.

Tom Hanify made a motion to approve the request. Chris Johnson seconded. Motion passed. They will be certified as

2. Kaylee Walker, Johnson Twp VFD, requested to be allowed to take the written test at the age of 17. She is asking for Hazmat Awareness, Operations, Firefighter 1-2 and Technical Rescue Awareness. She recently joined the fire dept and would like to be able to test with the rest of the firefighters in the current classes

Staff has no recommendation at this time.

- In the past career centers have been allowed to do this

- Liability issues with 17 year olds with chain saws, ladders, career centers are operating under DOE. Can we allow her to take the test in violation of the OSHA law?
- Legal – she is not asking to take the practical testing. She is asking to take the written and you cannot treat her any different than a student at a career center.
- You cannot take the written exam unless you take the practicals.
- How do you take a written test and not the practicals and make it count.
- The request is the permission to take the written exam
- If you want to take the test out of sequence and then take it again, who are we to do this?
- The Board made the distinction that we would not allow 17 year olds to test unless they are affiliated with career center.
- Deny because she cannot take the skills
- Some VFD have volunteer programs and they have liability to allow this

Tom Hanify made a motion to table until further information can be obtained. Eric Dreiman seconded. Motion to table passed.

Marshal Greeson stated that we have no idea how this program is benefiting the students at the career centers. How many of them go on to become firefighters? We have asked for the statistics on this and no one has anything. He agrees with Tom Hanify that she could sit in the class, but take her testing once she turns 18.

3. The following students from Central Nine Career Center requested to be allowed to test at the age of 17 for Hazmat Awareness, Operations, and Firefighter I/II.

Cloe Cole, Kristen Basey, David Smith, Zachary Overbay, Megan Lane, Kayla Haltom, Seamus Sweeney, Steven Hunter, Michael Shipley, Michael Mitchell, Becca Ram, James Lynch, Keegan Abel, Ashley Butler, Nathan Craig, Karley Hancock, Lonnie Hood, Mitch Meece, Cory Schoch, Hunter Sparks, Wyatt Stanley, Sarah Glackman, Colin

Mckenzie.

Staff recommends approvals pending the students are 17 at the time of testing and they test in prerequisite order.

Rob Lund made a motion to approve. Chris Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

4. Gregory Smith requested a variance for Driver Operator Pumper. He completed his Associate Degree in Fire Science and would like that to count as his written exam. He has completed the skills on Feb 5.2014.

Staff recommends denial. The transcripts do not show enough pertinent classes to meet the NFPA standard. He did complete the skills, and staff recommends he pass the state written exam.

Eric Dreiman made a motion to require Mr. Smith to take the written exam. Chris Johnson seconded. Motion passed.

5. Matthew Partain requested variance for Investigator. Matthew completed the class at the NFA academy and skills have been completed and signed off. He would like certification based on class completion and skills.

Staff recommends approval based on the NFA class and skills completed.

Eric Gentry made a motion to approve. Rob Lund seconded. Motion passed.

6. William Alfke requested a variance for the following students to take Mandatory and Hazmat awareness/operations testing at the age of 17 at Arsenal Technical CTC.

Arriyon Connor, Eguenelapa Ridley, and Kayla Hicks

Staff recommends approval providing the students are 17 at the time of testing and they take the tests in prerequisite order.

John Smith made a motion to approve. James Greeson seconded. Motion passed.

E. James Greeson, State Fire Marshal report;

Gary Robison is retiring on June 6th of this year. This is a busy time of year again for the office. Fireworks, festivals, etc are going on. If you need help in determining if staging or tents are compliant, call the office and we will assist you. We have already had over 500 requests for permits for firework stands.

This is EMS recognition week. There will be things going on all over the state for this. Next month we make the presentation on the fire academy to the governor. This is a white paper explaining why, when, where we need this. I will be reporting more on this meeting at the June 19th meeting.

- F Joe Romero, Director of Training report;
We requested and received funding for All Hazard Training. This program will be back up and running in the fall. Task books are going to be in processing again. In April we finished the committee meeting. There were twenty four recommendations for training and these will be submitted to Director Hill.
- G. John Buckman, Fire Training report; David Probo is reporting at this time:

I am working with committee on FOST as a rewrite. We have met a few times and we have come up with a basically a layout of the class. We are moving away from the Smith book. This book gave way to much more information than the class was designed for. We should be complete July 204. We will beta test this when we are done.
Firefighter I/II bank and skills have been validated. Fire engineering has volunteered to do the T-T-T and they will be back in June to do more. I will let you know the dates on this.
John Smith asked if these classes were being held during the week day, David explained that he will be doing some weekends and evening in order to encompass the volunteer firefighter.
- H. Judge Bippus, Administrative proceedings;
Mara Snyder explained that Judge Bippus has left the agency and the Board has to make a motion to allow other Judges to be able to hear appeals from this Board; We will be temporarily having people from the AG's office. The Board has to authorized the use of these deputy attorney's from the AG's office.

Rob Lund made a motion to authorize Donna S. Sembroski, Gordon E White and Kevin C McDowell, all deputy attorneys general to serve as administrative law judges for the Board, including, without limitation, the authority to:
1. Assume all pending administrative cases before the Board.
2. Act as administrative law judge for all new cases to come before the Board;
3. Hear and rule upon petitions for stay of enforcement; and
4. Hear and decide appeals to Emergency Orders issued with respect to one or more violations of the Boards' rules or applicable statutes.
Tom Hanify made a motion to second. Motion passed.
1. Cause 14-01, Jerry Martin

2. Cause 14-02, Bernard Beier- dismissed, Mr. Beier requested a variance, non final order
3. Cause 14-03, Bryan Fuller, withdrew his request for appeal, non final order
4. Cause 14-04, Robert Dickerson; Mr. Dickerson withdrew his request. Non final order
5. Cause 14-05, Toby Archer, conference call scheduled for July 10, 2014

John Smith made a motion to dismiss items 2, 3, and 4. These have been resolved. Tom Hanify seconded. Motion passed.

I. Request for reciprocity;

No report at this time

J. Administrative appeal requests;

No requests at this time.

K. Old business;

1. William Weaver requested an extension on his instructor hours due to military leave. The board tables the request pending his DD214 submission.

Eric Dreiman made a motion to approve an extension for 6 months from today. Tom Hanify seconded. Motion passed.

2. Steffen Schrock requested an extension for Shane Mckerchie for Firefighter I/II. The Board requested more information as to why the delay.

See item #1 under variances.

L. New business;

Revocation of certifications

Mara Snyder explained to the Board that although staff has authority to suspend certifications, actual revocation must come from the Board.

M Meeting adjourned 7:15 pm

NEXT MEETING:

June 19, 2014 9am (IVFA Convention)

Indy Water Park

Caribbean Cove Indoor Water Park

3850 DePauw Blvd

Indpls IN